DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 455 325 UD 034 303

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TITLE Rethinking Interventions To Combat Racism.
SPONS AGENCY Commission for Racial Equality, London (England).
ISBN ISBN-1-85856-252-X
PUB DATE 2001-00-00
NOTE 142p.; Title on cover page is "Rethinking Interventions in Racism." Research funded by the Barrow Cadbury Trust. Published by Trentham Books Limited.
AVAILABLE FROM Stylus Publishing, LLC, 22883 Quicksilver Drive, Sterling, VA 20166-2012 ($24.95). Web site: http://www.styluspub.com.
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Reports - Evaluative (142)
EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS Blacks; Consciousness Raising; Cultural Awareness; Foreign Countries; Police Action; *Racial Attitudes; *Racial Bias; Racial Relations; Social Bias
IDENTIFIERS *Antiracist Education; Social Policy; United Kingdom

ABSTRACT

This book arose as a result of the findings of the Stephen Lawrence murder inquiry, particularly the relationship to education and training about racism. Sir William Macpherson began his inquiry in 1998 following the racially motivated murder of Stephen Lawrence. The inquiry examined the causes of Lawrence's death, lessons to be learned from it, and national issues related to the investigation and prosection of racially motivated crimes. The resulting Macpherson report presented recommendations for rethinking racism and strategies for combating it. This book analyzes the legal inquiry in detail and interviews some of the key figures involved, discussing the police culture and the history of training on racial issues. It places the Macpherson recommendations in context, examining: how to use the Macpherson recommendations to enhance understanding of racism and improve effectiveness in tackling it; how current antiracism training takes account of the changing nature of racism; and whether new social policy initiatives have helped or hindered effective antiracism training. The book's seven chapters are: (1) "Introduction"; (2) "Unraveling Racism: Changing Conceptions"; (3) "Unraveling Racism: The Specificities of Racism"; (4) "Discourse Theory and Police Evidence from Stephen Lawrence Inquiry"; (5) "Training to Combat Racism: Past and Present"; (6) "The Post-Stephen Lawrence Inquiry Policy Context"; and (7) "Conclusions and Recommendations." Appendix 1 lists industrial training boards on race relations development; appendix 2 identifies strengths and weaknesses of various approaches that have been adopted to tackle racism. (Contains an extensive bibliography). (SM)

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